#2710

DOCKET NO: E00295.70066.US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Steven M. Blumenau

Serial No:

09/107,618

Confirmation No:

8313

Filed: For:

June 30, 1998

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING DATA MANAGEMENT FOR A STORAGE SYSTEM COUPLED

TO A NETWORK

Examiner:

Dung C. Dinh

Art Unit:

2153

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being transmitted via facsimile to the attention of Examiner Dung C. Dinh, at FAX number 703.746.7239, at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.6(d), on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

Jou d. Biancuzzo

Lori A. Biancuzzo

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant requests that the following amendments be made to the above application prior to Examination on the merits:

#### In the Claims

Applicant presents the claims as amended below and encloses a set of marked-up claims with bracketing and underlining.

Please rewrite claims 1, 15, and 21 as indicated below:

1. (Amended) A data management method for managing access to a plurality of volumes of a storage system by at least two devices coupled to the storage system through a network, the method comprising steps of:

675186.1



## 0

Date:

February 24, 2003

Number of pages (including cover): 10

To:

Examiner Dung C. Dinh, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Fax No.:

703.746.7239

Serial No.: 09/107,618

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING DATA MANAGEMENT FOR A

STORAGE SYSTEM COUPLED TO A NETWORK

From:

Edward J. Russavage

**Direct dial:** 617,573,7885

Our File #: E00295.70066.US

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE MAILED.

MESSAGE:

Transmitted herewith is/are TRANSMITTAL LETTER; PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.

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A. Biancuzzo

Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

Preliminary Amendment [X]

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

No fee is required. If a fee is necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Blumenau, Applicant

Edward J. Ryssavage, Reg. No.: 43,069

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Telephone: (617)720-3500

Docket No. E00295.70066.US

Date: February 24, 2003

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